### Public Health Environmental Health Services

# General Requirements Checklist—Food Carts



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### **Health Permit:**

- A valid Health Permit posted in a conspicuous location on the food cart.
- ✓ A current decal sticker posted on the food cart.
- ✓ Current San Bernardino County food handlers card for all employees handling food on the cart.

#### Food:

- ✓ Only food preparation approved during Plan Check process is allowed to be conducted on the food cart.
- ✓ All food is defrosted, washed, peeled, sliced, or chopped at a commissary, unless chopped on a heated cooking surface during the cooking process.
- ✓ Only steamed/boiled hot dogs, tamales in the original inedible wrapper, and roasting corn on the cob can be held on the cart at or above 135°F for serving. All other potentially hazardous food (PHF) must be cooked per individual customer order.
- ✓ Except as indicated above, all PHF must be held at or below 41°F in an approved mechanical refrigeration unit.
- ✓ PHF held at or above 135°F is discarded at the end of the operating day.
- ✓ Food handling is done inside the approved food compartment.
- ✓ All food is bought from an approved supplier and is not adulterated, contaminated, and/or spoiled.
- ✓ Food is only stored on the cart and not on the ground.
- An accurate thermometer is placed in all refrigeration units.
- ✓ The operational procedures for food handling, cleaning, and sanitizing of equipment and utensils have been approved by the DEHS and are available on the cart.

### Cleaning/Sanitizing:

✓ A three-compartment warewashing sink is required on the cart or auxiliary unit to wash, rinse, and sanitize utensils when open foods are prepared.

Note: A warewashing sink is not required on the cart if:

- ✓ The cart handles steamed/boiled hot dogs or non-PHF that requires only heating, baking, popping, portioning, bulk dispensing, assembly or shaving of ice; and
- ✓ The cart has an adequate supply of spare utensils; and
- ✓ All utensils are washed and sanitized at the commissary at least daily.
- ✓ A cart that prepares only PHF beverages for immediate service per customer order must have a three-compartment sink or other warewashing sink as approved by the DEHS to wash, rinse, and sanitize utensils.
- ✓ The three-compartment warewashing sink has hot (100°F) and cold running water.
- ✓ A cart with a warewashing sink has overhead protection comprised of approved smooth and washable materials.
- ✓ All PHF food contact surfaces are cleaned and sanitized throughout the day at least every four hours.
- All potable water tanks are flushed and sanitized.

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### Handwashing/Use of Gloves:

- ✓ Employees wash their hands in a handwashing sink with soap and warm (100°F-108°F) running water for 10 to 15 seconds, before handling food and after visiting the toilet.
- ✓ A cart with open food has a handwashing sink either on the cart or on an approved auxiliary unit.
- ✓ Employees with cuts, rashes, artificial nails, nail polish, and/or rings are wearing gloves.

### **Restroom Facilities:**

- ✓ A cart doing business at one location for more than one hour must operate within 200 feet of an approved restroom.
- ✓ The restroom has warm water (100°F-108°F), soap, and single use paper towels.

### Waste:

- ✓ An adequate number of easily cleanable trash containers are provided.
- ✓ The exterior and surrounding area is kept clean and free of trash.

### Commissary:

- ✓ The cart operates in conjunction with a commissary.
- ✓ The cart is cleaned and serviced daily at the commissary or by an approved mobile support unit.
- ✓ All wastewater generated by the cart is emptied at an approved commissary or other approved facility.

If you have questions regarding further requirements for MFFs, please visit our website at <a href="http://www.sbcounty.gov/dph/dehs">http://www.sbcounty.gov/dph/dehs</a> or contact us at (800) 442.2283.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As measured from the food cart to the entrance of the structure in which the restroom facilities are located.